

Appendix

Appendix A: RUCA Designations and Crosswalk to NERHRT Definitions

1. Metropolitan area core: primary flow within an urbanized area (UA)
 - 1.0 No additional code
 - 1.1 Secondary flow 30% to 50% to a larger UA
2. Metropolitan area high commuting: primary flow 30% or more to a UA
 - 2.0 No additional code
 - 2.1 Secondary flow 30% to 50% to a larger UA
3. Metropolitan area low commuting: primary flow 10% to 30% to a UA
 - 3.0 No additional code
4. Micropolitan area core: primary flow within an Urban Cluster of 10,000 to 49,999 (large UC)
 - 4.0 No additional code
 - 4.1 Secondary flow 30% to 50% to a UA
 - 4.2 Secondary flow 10% to 30% to a UA
5. Micropolitan high commuting: primary flow 30% or more to a large UC
 - 5.0 No additional code
 - 5.1 Secondary flow 30% to 50% to a UA
 - 5.2 Secondary flow 10% to 30% to a UA
6. Micropolitan low commuting: primary flow 10% to 30% to a large UC
 - 6.0 No additional code
 - 6.1 Secondary flow 10% to 30% to a UA
7. Small town core: primary flow within an Urban Cluster of 2,500 to 9,999 (small UC)
 - 7.0 No additional code
 - 7.1 Secondary flow 30% to 50% to a UA
 - 7.2 Secondary flow 30% to 50% to a large UC
 - 7.3 Secondary flow 10% to 30% to a UA
 - 7.4 Secondary flow 10% to 30% to a large UC

8. Small town high commuting: primary flow 30% or more to a small UC

- 8.0 No additional code
- 8.1 Secondary flow 30% to 50% to a UA
- 8.2 Secondary flow 30% to 50% to a large UC
- 8.3 Secondary flow 10% to 30% to a UA
- 8.4 Secondary flow 10% to 30% to a large UC

9. Small town low commuting: primary flow 10% to 30% to a small UC

- 9.0 No additional code
- 9.1 Secondary flow 10% to 30% to a UA
- 9.2 Secondary flow 10% to 30% to a large UC

10. Rural areas: primary flow to a tract outside a UA or UC

- 10.0 No additional code
- 10.1 Secondary flow 30% to 50% to a UA
- 10.2 Secondary flow 30% to 50% to a large U
- 10.3 Secondary flow 30% to 50% to a small UC
- 10.4 Secondary flow 10% to 30% to a UA
- 10.5 Secondary flow 10% to 30% to a large UC

Key

- Non-Rural
- Large Rural
- Small Rural
- Isolated Rural
- N/A for New England

Appendix B: Data Sources and Tables of Findings

The full set of tables developed in the analysis for this report will not be included in the report directly, however they can be accessed on the NERHRT web site at www.newenglandruralhealth.org.

The tables detail all data elements examined in the development of this report, and show the data points for each of the 3 rural tiers, the combined all rural tier, and for the non-rural tier. The tables also show the calculated difference between the all rural and non-rural tiers in absolute and ratio terms.

The following data sources formed the basis for the analyses in this document:

Data File:	United States Census – Summary File 3
Year:	2000
Source:	US Bureau of Census
Geographic Unit:	Zip Code Tabulation Area (ZCTA)
Data File:	Primary Care Service Area
Years:	AMA/AOA 2000–2001, AAPA 2001, CMS/Medicare 1999
Source:	Federal Bureau of Primary Health Care & Dartmouth College Center for Evaluative Clinical Studies: based on several underlying sources – see http://knox.dartmouth.edu/pcsa/downloads/data_sources.pdf
Geographic Unit:	Primary Care Service Areas (PCSA)
Data File:	Births
Years:	1999–2001
Source:	HHS / Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Division of Vital Statistics, Natality public-use data via CDC WONDER On-line Database
Geographic Unit:	County (small population counties grouped)
Data File:	Deaths
Years:	1999–2001
Source:	HHS / Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Division of Vital Statistics, Compressed Mortality public-use data via CDC WONDER On-line Database
Geographic Unit:	County

Data File:	Health Professional Shortage Areas
Year:	Current Designations – September 2006
Source:	HHS/HRSA – Bureau of Health Professions, Shortage Designation Branch – via Geospatial Data Warehouse
Geographic Unit:	Designations comprised of various underlying geographic units
Data File:	Hospitals (bed size/location)
Year:	Current Listing – September 2006
Source:	HRSA Geospatial Data Warehouse
Geographic Unit:	Point Facility Locations
Data File:	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS)*
Year:	2005
Source:	HHS / Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
Geographic Unit:	County

*Note on the Analysis and Weighting of the BRFSS Data

The 2005 BRFSS data for all six New England states were downloaded from www.cdc.gov/brfss. Cases were coded to the tiers of the rural definition based on the respondent’s county of residence (the most detailed geographic level available). Results were then adjusted for the complex sampling design, using the CDC-supplied 2005 BRFSS weights, which account for region, number of residential telephones, number of adults in households, and post-stratification non-response by age/gender/race. Each state has its own set of weights and they were applied to respondents from the corresponding state. Regional results were computed by then combining the weighted data for the six states, treating each state as a stratum in the sample design. State population estimates for 2005 are from the US Census. Analyses were conducted in SAS, which has procedures (e.g., PROC SURVEYFREQ, PROC SURVEYMEANS) which can accommodate complex survey designs in the computations of point estimates and standard errors.

Results are reported as mean cell values based on weighted data and, in parentheses, the 95% confidence interval around the mean based on the Standard Error (SE) values. The 95% confidence intervals were computed using the formula Mean +/- 1.95*SE.